

### REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Office Action dated September 27, 2006, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on December 27, 2006. Applicants respectfully request entry and consideration of the above noted amendments and the following remarks in response to the Office Action.

Applicants have added new claim 25, support for which may be found in at least cancelled claim 11 and paragraphs 30 and 31.

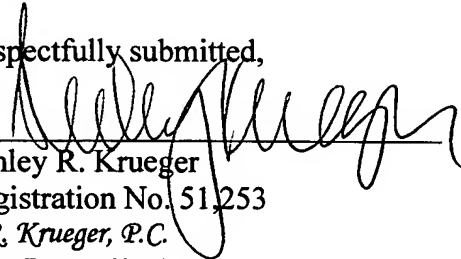
### CLAIM REJECTIONS:

Claims 1-17 and 22-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,143,683 (*Shamshoum*). Applicants have cancelled independent claim 11 and submitted new claim 25 and submit that *Shamshoum* does not teach, show or suggest the features of new claim 25. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

Claims 18-21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over *Shamshoum* in view of European Patent No. WO 00/60148 (*Demain*). The Office Action states that “*Shamshoum* does not expressly demonstrate the process of extruding fiber from the blend. However, extruding fiber from the isotactic and syndiotactic polypropylene blend is well known in the art and is acknowledged in *Shamshoum*...and such is also taught in *Demain*.” Applicants disagree that extruding fiber from a metallocene isotactic and metallocene syndiotactic blend is well known in the art and taught by either *Shamshoum* or *Demain*. See, specification at least paragraph . *Demain* teaches forming fibre from a blend of metallocene isotactic polypropylene and Ziegler-Natta isotactic polypropylene. See, Abstract. *Demain* does not teach the use of two metallocene catalysts nor the use of an isotactic and a syndiotactic catalyst as recited in pending claim 18 and cannot supply the features missing from the primary reference, *Shamshoum*. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In conclusion, Applicants submit that the references cited in the Office Action, neither alone nor in combination, teach, show, or suggest the claimed features. Having addressed all issues set out in the Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request the same.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tenley R. Krueger', is written over a horizontal line.

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